hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450, on:

Attorney Docket No: 0184.310US

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of:

Lorraine J. Giver, et al.

Application No.: 09/905,666

Filed: July 13, 2001

For: **NOVEL LIPASE GENES** Examiner: Nashaat T. Nashed

Art Unit: 1652

AMENDMENT

Commissioner of Patents P.O. Box 1450

Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

In response to the Office Action mailed October 1, 2003, Applicants request consideration of the following amendments and remarks. A petition for a three month extension of time authorizing the Commissioner to charge the requisite fee pursuant 37 C.F.R. § 1.17 is enclosed. The petition thus effectively extends the period of response from January 1, 2004 to April 1, 2004.

Amendments to the Specification begin on page 2 of this submission.

Amendments to the Claims are reflected to the listing of claims which begins on page 5 of this submission.

Amendments to the Drawings begin on page 11 of this submission and include both attached replacement sheets and annotated sheets showing the changes.

Remarks begin on page 12 of this submission.